

Notice of Proposed Action

by the

State of Nevada

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Ken Snyder Mine Project**, a mining facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of **Permit NEV96107** is:

**Normandy Midas Operations, Inc. (Newmont)**  
**Ken Snyder Mine Project**  
**HC 66 Box 125**  
**Midas, Nevada 89414**

The facility, known as the Ken Snyder Mine Project, is located in portions of Sections 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, and 34, Township 39 North, Range 46 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, in western Elko County, approximately 1.5 miles southeast of the town of Midas and approximately 50 miles northeast of Winnemucca.

The project consists of a an underground mine with a decline and ramp system to access the steeply dipping gold-silver bearing vein deposit, a temporary waste rock area, a crushing plant, a 1000 tons-per-day conventional mill incorporating gravity separation and cyanide leaching with Merrill-Crowe recovery, a refinery, a cyanide destruction circuit, a tailings impoundment with an underdrain solution reclaim system and collection pond, two settling ponds, a rapid infiltration basin, and various process and administrative support facilities. Mine dewatering is authorized up to 365,000 gallons per day but averages less than 11 gallons per minute. All dewatering water is currently utilized within the processing circuit. The project will disturb an estimated 153.7 acres of surface during a remaining project life of approximately 10 years. Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event or permitted dewatering through the infiltration basin.

The Administrator is constrained to issue the Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative determination to issue the permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to the Nevada

Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (07 February 2003) to:

Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation  
Capitol Complex  
333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138  
Carson City, NV 89706-0851

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Miles Shaw at (775) 687-9409, toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>